



TRANSPORTATION

Dave Geraci

Manager - Network Rationalization

EI-2457

CG

AB 55-670X
500 Water Street - J200
Jacksonville, FL 32202
(904) 359-1086
FAX (904) 359-1111

July 19, 2006

Surface Transportation Board
Section of Environmental Analysis
1925 "K" Street NW -Suite 534
Washington, DC 20423-0001

RE: CSXT Proposed Abandonment
Middlesex County, MA
STB Docket AB-55 (Sub-No. 670X)

Gentlemen:

This refers to CSX Transportation's Notice of Exemption filed on July 7, 2006, requesting authority to abandon its rail line described above. Enclosed please find a copy of a letter dated July 13, 2006 from Mr. Michael Amaral of the U.S. Department of the Interior - Fish and Wildlife Service stating, "...no federally-listed or proposed, threatened or endangered species or critical habitat...are known to occur in the project area(s)."

Sincerely,

Attachment

Copy: Mr. Steven Armbrust, CSXT, 500 Water Street-J150, Jacksonville, FL, 32202



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
New England Field Office
70 Commercial Street, Suite 300
Concord, New Hampshire 03301-5087



July 13, 2006

Reference: Project Location
Railroad abandonment Natick, MA
Docket # AB-55 (Sub. # 670X)

Dave Geraci
CSX Transportation
500 Water St., J200
Jacksonville, FL 32202

Dear Mr. Geraci:

This responds to your recent correspondence requesting information on the presence of federally-listed and/or proposed endangered or threatened species in relation to the proposed activity(ies) referenced above.

Based on information currently available to us, no federally-listed or proposed, threatened or endangered species or critical habitat under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are known to occur in the project area(s). Preparation of a Biological Assessment or further consultation with us under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act is not required.

This concludes our review of listed species and critical habitat in the project location(s) and environs referenced above. No further Endangered Species Act coordination of this type is necessary for a period of one year from the date of this letter, unless additional information on listed or proposed species becomes available.

Thank you for your coordination. Please contact us at 603-223-2541 if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Michael J. Amaral
Endangered Species Specialist
New England Field Office

CC: Surface Transportation Bd., Washington, DC